

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are pending in this application. Claims 1-22 and 26 were previously withdrawn from consideration in response to a restriction requirement. In the December 5, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner has rejoined and finally rejected previously restricted claims 1-3 and 22. Therefore, claims 1-3, 22-25 and 27-29 are currently under examination and claims 1-3, 22, 28 and 29 stand rejected.

Claims 23-25 and 27 are allowed.

Claims 1-3, 22, 28 and 29 are cancelled herein without waiver or prejudice to Applicants' right to pursue claims to inventions claimed in the cancelled claims in continuant applications claiming priority to the present application. In view of the cancellation of claims 1-3, 22, 28 and 29, the rejections set forth in the December 5, 2006 Office Action are rendered moot and Applicants' respectfully request that a Notice of Allowance be issued so that the allowed claims 23-25 and 27 can be passed to issuance.

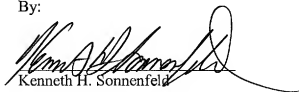
AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3732, Order No. 13697.105006. Furthermore, in the event that a further extension of time is required, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to the above-noted Deposit Account No. 50-3732 and Order No. 13697.105006.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: December 11, 2006

By:



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